Allocation of Funds for the Welfare of P and T Employees

1264. SHRI RAMCHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of revenue and expenditure (separately) earmarked for the welfare of Telecom and Postal employees during the past; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to allocate/spend a respectable portion on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The percentage of revenue and expenditure earmarked for the welfare of Telecom and Postal employees during the last three years is as follows:—

Department	Allocation of funds for welfare					
	Percentage of Revenue			Percentage of Expenditure		
	96-97	97-98	98-99	96-97	97-98	98-99
Telecom	0.34	0.42	0.37	0.62	0.72	0.60
Posts	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.06	0.06	0.06

(b) As welfare programmes are need based, allocation of funds towards staff welfare is made in consonance with the requirement.

Maintenance of Rani Jhansi's Fort

†1265. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the historic place of Jhansi standing witness to the chivalry and bravery of valiant queen Laxmibai is in a sorry state and has been losing the sign of its glorious past;

(b) if so, the reasons for the negligence of the historic fort of the queen who fought against British rule during the movement of 1857; and

(c) if not, the details of the arrangements regarding the maintenance protection and proper lighting of the fort with the details of the ways for maintaining other ancient monuments of India?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.